

“I am glad to see these federal funds return to our Valley,” said Costa. “Investing in our schools is critical to advancing the education and futures of our children. Strong schools are also essential to the economic success of our region. This grant will encourage our local children to be active and improve the health of Valley residents for years to come. ”

Targeted communities that are experiencing high rates of unemployment may apply for Economic Impact Initiative grant funds made available through the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development. The funds may be used for a variety of community facility needs including road maintenance equipment, police vehicles, computer and communication equipment, energy efficiency improvements and municipal buildings.

More information about USDA Rural Development can be found at www.rurdev.usda.gov .